

FACEMASK HARNESS

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to a facemask for baseball game and, more specifically, to a facemask harness used in a facemask for fastening the cage to the user's head which gives a comfortable wearing and, prevents slipping.

10 Figures 1~3 show a facemask constructed according to the prior art. As illustrated, the facemask is comprised of a cage 5 and a harness 6. The harness 6 comprises a plurality of adjustment straps 61;62;63 adjustably fastened to the cage 5. However, this structure of facemask is still not satisfactory in function because of the following drawbacks:

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1. The harness 6 is formed of a transverse base strap 60, a number of adjustment straps 61;62;63, and supplementary straps 64. The straps 60~64 are fastened to one another by stitches. This design of harness 6 is not comfortable in use. Even if elastic material is used to make the transverse
20 base strap 60, it is still difficult to keep the harness 6 positively in close contact with the user's head.

2. After fastening of the facemask to the user's head, the straps 60~64 may slip on the smooth surface of the user's helmet 7. In order to prevent slipping of
25 the straps 60~64 may slip on the smooth surface of the user's helmet 7, the

straps 60~64 must be fastened tight, giving an uncomfortable touch to the user.

The present invention has been accomplished under the circumstances
5 in view. It is therefore one object of the present invention to provide a facemask harness, which gives a comfortable wearing. It is another object of the present invention to provide a facemask harness, which does not slip on the user's helmet, thereby holding the facemask positively in position. To achieve these and other objects of the present invention, the facemask harness comprises a
10 body and a plurality of straps adapted to secure the body to the cage of the facemask. The body of the facemask harness is formed of an inner foam rubber layer and an outer elastic fabric layer adhered to the inner foam rubber layer. Further, the straps are respectively provided with hook and loop materials for detachably fastening to the cage of the facemask.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is an exploded view of a facemask for baseball game according to the prior art.

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Figure 2 is a perspective assembly view of the facemask shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 shows the prior art facemask attached to the catcher's helmet.

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Figure 4 is an exploded view of a facemask constructed according to the present invention.

Figure 5 is a perspective assembly view of the facemask shown in
5 Figure 4.

Figure 6 is an exploded view of the facemask and the catcher's helmet according to the present invention.

10 Figure 7 shows the facemask attached to the catcher's helmet according to the present invention.

Figure 8 is a sectional view in an enlarged scale of a part of Figure 7.

15 Figure 9 is a perspective view of the facemask harness according to the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

20 Referring to Figures 4~9, a facemask **1** is shown comprising a cage **11**, an upper padding **12** fastened to the top side of the cage **11** by hook and loop materials **21**, a lower padding **13** fastened to the bottom side of the cage **11** by hook and loop materials **22**, and a facemask harness **3** adapted to secure the facemask **1** to the user's head. The facemask harness **3** comprises a body **30**, a
25 top strap **32** extended from the top side of the body **30** on the middle and

fastened to a top middle part **111** of the cage **11**, and two opposite side straps **33** and **34** respectively extended from two opposite lateral sides of the body **30** and respectively fastened to two opposite lateral sides **112** and **113** of the cage **11**.

5 The body **30** is formed of an inner foam rubber layer **301** and an outer elastic fabric layer **302** adhered to the inner foam rubber layer **301**. The body **30** is a substantially triangular member having a top side **311** stitched to the top strap **32**, and two opposite lateral sides **312** and **313** respectively stitched to the side straps **33** and **34**. After fastening of the facemask **1** to the user's head, the
10 inner foam rubber layer **301** of the body **30** is maintained in contact with the user's helmet **4** (see Figures 6~8), preventing displacement of the facemask harness **3**.

 The facemask harness **3** further comprises a piping **314** formed of an
15 elastic fabric and fastened to the border edge of the body **30** with a stitch line **310**.

 Further, the top and side straps **32;33;34** each are provided with a respective tape of hook material **321;331;341** and a respective tape of loop
20 material **322;332;342** for detachably fastening to the cage **11**.

 As indicated above, the body **30** of the facemask harness **3** is formed of an inner foam rubber layer **301** and an outer elastic fabric layer **302** adhered to the inner foam rubber layer **301**, therefore the facemask harness **3** gives a
25 comfortable wearing. Further, because the inner form rubber layer **301** is

maintained in close contact with the user's helmet after fastening of the facemask **1** to the user's head, the facemask harness **3** does not slip, holding the facemask **1** positively in position.

- 5 Although a particular embodiment of the invention has been described in detail for purposes of illustration, various modifications and enhancements may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. Accordingly, the invention is not to be limited except as by the appended claims.